

UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009

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Wednesday, December 10, 2025

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From the [Daily Bruin](#): *The City of Pasadena and the Rose Bowl Operating Company added SoFi stadium's owner as a defendant in their lawsuit aimed at stopping UCLA from leaving its home stadium [last] Thursday.*

The plaintiffs amended the complaint to include Kroenke Sports & Entertainment and its subsidiary, Stadco LA, as defendants, alleging that SoFi was aware of UCLA's

contract with the Rose Bowl but still went on a "quest to facilitate UCLA's attempt to leave." The City of Pasadena and the RBOC initially sued the UC Board of Regents on Oct. 29, claiming that UCLA planned to move its football games to SoFi stadium despite signing a contract with the Rose Bowl through 2044...

KSE executives openly said in late 2024 or early 2025 that SoFi was pursuing UCLA, according to the amended complaint...

Full story at <https://dailybruin.com/2025/12/05/sofi-stadium-added-as-defendant-in-rose-bowl-suit-against-ucla>.

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Previous coverage at: <https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2025/12/i-never-promised-you-rose-bowl-part-3.html>; <https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2025/11/i-never-promised-you-rose-bowl-part-2.html>; <https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2025/11/i-never-promised-you-rose-bowl.html>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:30 AM](#) No comments:

Labels: [athletics](#), [UCLA](#)

Straws in the Wind - Part 187

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Topics

From the [Yale Daily News](#): *Members of Students Unite Now organized a town hall... to discuss the experiences of student workers in light of Yale's recent decision to replace two need-based summer awards with a one-time Summer Experience Grant. "After announcing \$4.5 billion in endowment returns, Yale will cut grants that were promised when we enrolled," read the Instagram post advertising the town hall. "Yale will force a choice between study abroad or internships to advance our careers. This will exacerbate race and class based inequity on campus." The town hall consisted of a mix of testimonies from student workers and data quantifying Yale's financial approach to student jobs.*



At the beginning of the event, organizers discussed cuts to student workers' hours, which were the result of a 5 percent reduction in non-salary expenses made by the University in anticipation of the endowment tax hike. Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis said in a September interview that over the next three years, the University will cut an additional 5 percent of non-salary expenses — a category which student wages fall into, he said. "If, for example, now, people are typically working seven hours a week, I wouldn't be surprised if we give the guidance that, well, it's going to be five hours a week going forward, or something like that, because we pay everybody \$17 or \$17.50 an hour," Lewis said. "A realistic way to be fair is just to have roughly the same number of people but have each have fewer hours." ...

Full story at <https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2025/11/21/student-workers-call-for-higher-wages-restoration-of-summer-grants/>.

From the [Daily Princetonian](#): *...The Community Living Advisors (CLAs) for the residential colleges were informed in meetings with their residential college staff that the position would not be offered next academic year. CLAs in upperclass student housing, however, would remain unaffected. There are currently 44 CLAs employed at Princeton, 19 of whom are for students in residential colleges. According to four CLAs, the cause for these cancellations is University budget cuts impacting all units, including the residential colleges. The University has been working to reduce costs following \$210 million in federal grant cuts, although about half of the funding has since been restored.*

The role of CLAs is to facilitate sophomore, junior, and senior dormitory living by hosting events, managing proper dorm etiquette, and being a social resource for non-first year students. The position was established by the University in 2023 and merged the roles of the Assistant Residential College Advisors (ARCAs) and Dormitory Assistants (DAs)...

Full story at <https://www.dailyprincetonian.com/article/2025/12/princeton-news-stlife-university-to-terminate-residential-community-living-advisor-position>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:20 AM](#) No comments:

Labels: [Princeton U](#), [Yale](#)

Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 98



From the [Harvard Crimson](#): *Harvard and its custodians' union agreed [last] Thursday to work with a federal mediator in ongoing contract negotiations to resolve a deadlock over wage increases — the first time a mediator has stepped into custodial bargaining with the University in at least 20 years. 32BJ Service Employees International Union, which represents roughly 800 Harvard custodians, has been bargaining with Harvard since early October. But it quickly found itself at loggerheads with the University over wage increases, asking Harvard to consistently offer pay hikes that keep up with inflation, which has hovered near 3 percent since 2023.*

Dozens of workers went on a two-day strike last month to protest Harvard's proposals after their contract expired on Nov. 15, but the two parties have not made significant progress since. Harvard proposed entering federal mediation to move negotiations forward during the Thursday session, and the union agreed...

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The two parties will meet for the first time with the mediator at their next session, which is currently being scheduled for the week of Dec. 15, according to the union spokesperson. "We understand that Harvard is facing unprecedented attacks by the Trump Administration, but they are still the richest university in the world," 32BJ Executive Vice President Kevin Brown wrote in a statement, arguing that given its endowment growth, the University "should not resolve its woes on the backs of its lowest-paid, immigrant workers." ...

Full story at <https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2025/12/5/custodian-bargaining-mediation/>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:10 AM No comments: 

Labels: [Harvard](#), [politics](#), [strikes](#)

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Coming April 24th

On the systemwide Academic Senate website, there are posted various policy documents under review, many of which have comment periods closing this week (tomorrow, Dec. 10). One in particular is titled "Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy IMT-1300 Information Technology Accessibility" and deals with accessibility standards for disabled people in regards to IT materials.* Such materials seem to be recordings and other instructional items. The new standards are to begin April 24, 2026, and appear to apply to anything in active use at that time, i.e., anything other than archived items.

April 2026						
Tuesday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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Exactly what will be required on that date is unclear from the viewpoint of actual instructors who will be teaching after that date. Yours truly suspects there is little awareness of whatever changes may be required, other than among some Senate officials and others in the UC administration. The date, April 24th, falls within UCLA's spring quarter; it is not aligned with the start of that quarter and seems to be an arbitrary deadline. It is unclear why a change in instructional policy would not be linked to the various campus calendars. But there is a hint in the document that the date is linked to some federal requirement. In any case, it is also unclear exactly what changes instructors will be mandated to make by April 24th.

In fact, there is nothing at all clear about what will be required. For example, anyone who has used Zoom or similar programs that have a captioning option will know that the transcripts provided are often inaccurate. Are such imprecise transcripts considered good enough? There is a Q&A section in the document, but it doesn't answer such questions.

The Good News is that the proposed policy is listed on the Senate's website. The Bad News is that virtually no faculty read that website.

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*https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/underreview/systemwide-senate-review-it-accessibility.pdf.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments: 

Labels: [diversity](#), [UC](#)

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From [The Atlantic](#): Administering an exam used to be straightforward: All a college professor needed was an open room and a stack of blue books. At many American universities, this is no longer true. Professors now struggle to accommodate the many students with an official disability designation, which may entitle them to extra time, a distraction-free environment, or the use of otherwise-prohibited technology. The University of Michigan has two centers where students with disabilities can take exams, but they frequently fill to capacity, leaving professors scrambling to find more desks and proctors. Juan Collar, a physicist at the University of Chicago, told me that so many students now take their exams in the school's low-distraction testing outposts that they have become more distracting than the main classrooms.



...Over the past decade and a half, however, the share of students at selective universities who qualify for accommodations—often, extra time on tests—has grown at a breathtaking pace. **At the University of Chicago, the number has more than tripled over the past eight years; at UC Berkeley, it has nearly quintupled over the past 15 years.**

The increase is driven by more young people getting diagnosed with conditions such as ADHD, anxiety, and depression, and by universities making the process of getting accommodations easier. **The change has occurred disproportionately at the most prestigious and expensive institutions. At Brown and Harvard, more than 20 percent of undergraduates are registered as disabled. At Amherst, that figure is 34 percent. Not all of those students receive accommodations, but researchers told me that most do.** The schools that enroll the most academically successful students, in other words, also have the largest share of students with a disability that could prevent them from succeeding academically...

Full story at <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/2026/01/elite-university-student-accommodation/684946>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:20 AM](#) No comments:

Labels: [Brown University](#), [diversity](#), [Harvard](#), [U of Chicago](#), [U of Michigan](#), [UC-Berkeley](#)

Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 97



From the [Harvard Crimson](#): Harvard's deep cuts to Ph.D. admissions are on track to leave undergraduate courses short of teaching fellows within two years, a looming squeeze already pushing departments to prepare contingency plans. For now, the impact is delayed: G1 and G2 students do not teach, giving Harvard a brief buffer before the much smaller incoming cohort reaches the teaching-heavy G3 year. But TFs run sections, tutorials, and much of the grading across the humanities and social sciences. With fewer of them on the horizon, departments are being forced into early planning.

Some faculty expect to shoulder the burden themselves. Philosophy professor Edward J. Hall — who leads undergraduate studies for the department — said a possibility is that “faculty will need to start teaching sections.” ...

...The department has little flexibility. It remains a “non-negotiable” that TFs be trained in philosophy, ruling out borrowing students from other units at Harvard. But, he said, the department is considering turning to graduate students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The planning comes after the Faculty of Arts and Sciences announced it would slash Ph.D. admissions by 60 percent in the Arts and Humanities division and by 50 to 70 percent in the Social Sciences division as part of an effort to close an approximately \$350 million budget deficit...

Full story at <https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2025/12/4/harvard-braces-phd-cuts/>.

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Hey, it's only money



From the [LA Times](#): ...*UCLA plans to support its new [football] coach [Bob Chesney] with enhanced resources, making a significant commitment to grow its assistant coach salary pool alongside additional investment in front-office, recruiting and strength and conditioning personnel as well as a restructured NIL operation...*

Chesney is going to have some new resources at his disposal. As part of

an aggressive restructuring, UCLA has transitioned its name, image and likeness efforts for football to the same third-party media and branding agency that handles the school's other teams. Champion of Westwood will assist Chesney in an effort to elevate his team's NIL endeavors in the same way it has for men's basketball — through its Men of Westwood arm — as well as women's basketball, softball and other teams on campus.

Working with NIL agency Article 41, which has staff on campus to help athletes build their brands through content creation and social media strategies, Champion of Westwood is striving to create new opportunities for football players as part of an all-inclusive approach... As part of a new subscriber model in which payments can be made on a one-time or recurring basis, Champion of Westwood is offering benefits such as exclusive merchandise and player video updates directly from the locker room after a game.

...Champion of Westwood has also assembled a new advisory board that includes former UCLA quarterback Cory Paus, mega donor Michael Price and other heavyweights in the financial and entertainment sectors who can help facilitate introductions between players and individuals or companies interested in engaging them for NIL deals...

Full story at <https://www.latimes.com/sports/ucla/newsletter/2025-12-08/bob-chesney-bruins-football>.

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- [California Policy Issues](#)
- [Toby Higbie](#)
- [UCLA Faculty Association](#)